

A
D E C R E E
O F
Starre-Chamber,
C O N C E R N I N G
P R I N T I N G,

*Made the eleuenth day of July
last past. 1637.*



Imprinted at London by Robert Barker,
Printer to the Kings most Excellent
Maiestie: And by the Assignes
of Iohn Bill. 1637.





In Camera Stellata coram Con-
cilio ibidem, vndecimo die

Inlij, Anno decimo tertio
CAROLI Regis.

T*His day Sir I O H N
B A N K E S Knight,
His Maiesties At-
tourney Generall, pro-
duced in Court a Decree, drawn
and penned by the aduice of the
Right Honourable the Lord Kee-
per of the great Seale of England,
the most Reuerend Father in God
the Lord Arch-Bishop of Can-
terbury his Grace, the Right Ho-
norable and Right Reuerend Fa-*

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*therin God the Lord Bishop of
London Lord high Treasurer
of England, the Lords chiefe Iu-
stices, and the Lord chiefe Ba-
ron, touching the regulating of
Printers and Founders of letters,
whereof the Court hauing conside-
ration, the said Decree was dire-
cted and ordered to be here Recor-
ded; and to the end the same may be
publique, and that euery one whom
it may concerne may take notice
thereof, The Court hath now also
ordered, That the said Decree shall
speedily be Printed, and that the
same bee sent to His Maiesties
Printer for that purpose.*

In



In Camera Stellata co-
ram Concilio ibidem, vn-
decimo die Iulii, Anno
decimo tertio CAROLI
Regis.



Hereas the three
& twentieth day
of Iune in the
eight and twen-
tieth yeare of the
reigne of the late
Queene ELIZABETH, and be-
fore

A Decree

fore, diuers Decrees and Ordinances haue been made for the better gouernment and regulating of Printers and Printing, which Orders and Decrees haue been found by experience to be defectiue in some particulars; And diuers abuses haue sithence arisen, and been practised by the craft and malice of wicked and euill disposed persons, to the prejudice of the Publike; And diuers libellous, seditious, and mutinous Bookes haue been vnduly printed, and other Bookes and Papers without Licence, to the disturbance of the peace of the Church and State: For pre-

of Starre-Chamber.

preuention whereof in time to come, It is now Ordered and Decreed, That the said former Decrees and Ordinances shall stand in force with these Additions, Explanations, and Alterations following, *viz.*

I*Mprimis*, That no person or persons whatsoever shall presume to Print, or cause to be printed, either in the parts beyond the Seas, or in this Realm, or other his Maiesties Dominions, any Seditious, Scismaticall, or offensive Bookes or Pamphlets, to the scandall of Religion, or the Church, or the Govern-
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A Decree

uernment, or Gouvernours of the Church or State, or Commonwealth, or of any Corporation, or particular person or persons whatsoever, nor shall import any such Booke or Bookes, nor sell or dispose of them, or any of them, nor cause any such to bee bound, stitiched, or sowed, vpon pain that hee or they so offending, shall lose all such Bookes and Pamphlets, & also haue, and suffer such correction, and seuerer punishment, either by Fine, imprisonment, or other corporall punishment, or otherwise, as by this Court, or by His Maiesties Commissioners for causes Eccle-

of Starre-Chamber.

Ecclesiasticall in the high Commission Court, respectiuey, as the seuerall causes shall require, shall be thought fit to be inflicted vpon him, or them, for such their offence and contempt.

II. *Item*, That no person or persons whatsoeuer, shall at any time print or cause to be imprinted, any Booke or Pamphlet whatsoeuer, vnlesse the same Booke or Pamphlet, and also all and euery the Titles, Epistles, Prefaces, Proems, Preambles, Introductions, Tables, Dedications, and other matters and

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A Decree

things whatsoever thereunto annexed, or therewith imprinted, shall be first lawfully licensed and authorized onely by such person and persons as are hereafter expressed, and by no other, and shall be also first entered into the Registers Booke of the Company of Stationers; upon paine that euery Printer offending therein, shall be for ever hereafter disabled to use or exercise the Art or Mystery of Printing, and receiue such further punishment, as by this Court or the high Commission Court respectiue, as the seuerall causes

of Starre-Chamber.

ses shall require, shall be thought fitting.

III. *Item*, That all Bookes concerning the common Lawes of this Realme shall bee printed by the especiall allowance of the Lords chiefe Iustices, and the Lord chiefe Baron for the time being, or one or more of them, or by their appointment; And that all Books of History, belonging to this State, and present times, or any other Booke of State-affaires shall be licenced by the principall Secretaries of State, or one of them, or by their appoint-
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A Decree

ment; And that all Bookes concerning Heraldry, Titles of Honour and Armes, or otherwise concerning the office of Earle Marshall, shall be licenced by the Earle Marshall, or by his appointment; And further, that all other Books, whether of Divinity, Physicke, Philosophie, Poetry, or whatsoeuer, shall be allowed by the Lord Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, or Bishop of *London* for the time being, or by their appointment, or the Chancellours, or Vice-Chancellors of either of the Vniuersities of this Realme for the time being.

Alwayes provided, that the
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of Starre-Chamber.

Chancellour or Vice-Chancellour of either of the Vniuersities, shall Licence onely such Booke or Bookes that are to bee printed within the limits of the Vniuersities respectiuey, but not in *London*, or elsewhere, nor meddling either with bookes of the common Law, or matters of State.

IV. *Item*, That euery person and persons, which by any Decree of this Court are, or shall be appointed or authorized to Licence bookes, or giue VVar- rant for imprinting thereof, as is aforesaid, shall haue two seuerall
written

A Decree

written Copies of the same Booke or Bookes with the Titles, Epistles, Prefaces, Proems, Preambles, Introductions; Tables, Dedications, and other things whatsoeuer thereunto annexed. One of which said Copies shall bee kept in the publike Registries of the said Lord Arch-Bishop, and Bishop of *London* respectiueley, or in the Office of the Chancellour, or Vice-Chancellour of either of the Vniuersities, or with the Earle Marshall, or Principall Secretaries of State, or with the Lords chiefe Iustices, or chiefe Baron, of all such Bookes as shall

of Starre-Chamber.

shall be licensed by them respectively, to the end that he or they may be secure, that the Copy so licensed by him or them shall not bee altered without his or their priuity, and the other shall remain with him whose Copy it is, and upon both the said Copies, hee or they that shall allow the said Booke, shall testifie vnder his or their hand or hands, that there is nothing in that Booke or Bookes contained, that is contrary to Christian Faith, and the Doctrine and Discipline of the Church of *England*, nor against the State or Government, nor contrary to good life,

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A Decree.

or good manners, or otherwise, as the nature and subiect of the work shall require, which license or approbation shall be imprinted in the beginning of the same Book, with the name or names of him or them that shall authorize or license the same, for a testimonie of the allowance thereof.

V. *Item*, That euery Merchant of books, and person and persons whatsoeuer, which doth, or hereafter shall buy, import, or bring any booke or bookes into this Realme, from any parts beyond the Seas, shall before such time

of Starre-Chamber.

time as the same booke or books,
or any of them bee deliuered
forth, or out of his, or their hand
or hands, or exposed to sale,
giue, and present a true Cata-
logue in writing of all and euery
such booke and books vnto the
Lord Arch-Bishop of *Canterbu-*
ry, or Lord Bishop of *London* for
the time being, vpon paine to
(haue and suffer such punish-
ment for offending herein, as by
this Court, or by the said high
Commission Court respectiue-
ly, as the seuerall causes shall re-
quire, shall be thought fitting.

VI. *Item*, That no Mer-
chant,

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A Decree

chant, or other person or persons
whatsoever, which shall import,
or bring any book or books into
the kingdome, from any parts
beyond the Seas, shall presume
to open any Dry-fats, Bales,
Packs, Maunds, or other Fardals
of books, or wherein books are;
nor shall any Searcher, VVayt-
er, or other Officer belonging
to the Custome-house, vpon
pain of loosing his or their place
or places, suffer the same to
passe, or to be deliuered out of
their hands or custody, before
such time as the Lord Arch-Bi-
shop of *Canterbury*, or Lord Bi-
shop of *London*, or one of them
for

of Starre-Chamber.

for the time being, haue appointed one of their Chaplains, or some other learned man, with the Master and Wardens of the Company of Stationers, or one of them, and such others as they shall call to their assistance, to be present at the opening thereof, and to view the same: And if there shall happen to be found any seditious, schismaticall or offensive booke or bookes, they shall forthwith be brought vnto the said Lord Arch-bishop of *Canterbury*, Lord Bishop of *London* for the time being, or one of them, or to the high Commission Office, to the end that as well

A Decree

the offender or offenders may be punished by the Court of Star-chamber, or the high Commission Court respectiue, as the seuerall causes shall require, according to his or their demerit; as also that such further course and order may be taken concerning the same booke or bookes, as shall bee thought fitting.

VII. *Item*, That no person or persons shall within this Kingdome, or elsewhere imprint, or cause to be imprinted, nor shall import or bring in, or cause to be imported or brought into

of Starre-Chamber.

into this Kingdome, from, or out
of any other His Maiesties Do-
minions, nor from other, or any
parts beyond the Seas, any Co-
py, book or books, or part of any
booke or bookes printed beyond
the Seas, or elsewhere, which
the said Company of Stationers,
or any other person or persons
haue, or shall by any Letters Pa-
tents, Order, or Entrance in their
Register booke, or otherwise,
haue the right, priuiledge, au-
thority or allowance solely to
print, nor shall binde, stitch, or
put to sale, any such booke or
bookes, vpon paine of losse and
forfeiture of all the said bookes,
and

A Decree

and of such Fine, or other punishment, for euery booke or part of a booke so imprinted or imported, bound, stitched, or put to sale, to be leuyed of the partie so offending, as by the power of this Court, or the high Commission Court respectiuelly, as the seuerall causes shall require, shall be thought fit.

VIII. *Item*, Euery person and persons that shall hereafter Print, or cause to be Printed, any Bookes, Ballads, Charts, Portraiture, or any other thing or things whatsoever, shall thereunto or thereon Print and set his and their own name or names,

as

of Starre-Chamber.

as also the name or names of the
Author or Authors, Maker or
Makers of the same, and by, or
for whom any such booke or o-
ther thing is, or shall be printed,
vpon pain of forfeiture of all such
Bookes, Ballads, Charts, Portrai-
tures, and other thing or things,
printed contrary to this Article;
And the presses, Letters and o-
ther instruments for Printing,
wherewith such Books, Ballads,
Charts, Portraitsures, and other
thing or things shall be printed,
to bee defaced and made vnser-
uiceable, and the party and par-
ties so offending, to be fined, im-
prisoned, and haue such other

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A Decree

corporall punishment, or otherwise, as by this Honourable Court, or the said high Commission respectiue, as the severall causes shall require, shall be thought fit.

IX. *Item*, That no person or persons whatsoever shall hereafter print, or cause to be printed, or shall forge, put, or counterfeit, in or vpon any booke or books, the name, title, Marke or Vinnet of the Company or Society of Stationers, or of any particular person or persons, which hath or shall haue lawfull priuiledge, authority,

of Starre-Chamber.

ritie, or allowance to print the same, without the consent of the said Company, or partie or parties that are or shall be so priuiledged, authorized, or allowed to print the same booke or bookes, thing or things, first had and obtained, vpon paine that euery person or persons so offending, shall not onely loose all such bookes and other things, but shall also haue, and suffer such punishment, by imprisonment of his body, fine, or otherwise, as by this Honourable Cotrt, or high Commission Court respectiuey, as the seuerall causes shall require, it shall

A Decree

be to him or them limited or adjudged.

X. *Item*, That no Haberdasher of small wares, Ironmonger, Chandler, Shop-keeper, or any other person or persons whatsoever, not having been seven yeares apprentice to the trade of a Book seller, Printer, or Book-binder, shall within the City or Suburbs of *London*, or in any other Corporation, Market-town, or elsewhere, receive, take or buy, to barter, sell againe, change or do away any Bibles, Testaments, Psalm-books, Primers, Abcees, Almanacks, or
other

of Starre-Chamber.

other booke or bookes whatsoe-
uer, vpon pain of forfeiture of all
such books so receiued, bought
or taken as aforesaid, and such
other punishment of the parties
so offending, as by this Court,
or the said high Commission
Court respectiue, as the seve-
rall causes shall require, shall be
thought meet.

XI. *Item*, For that Printing
is, and for many years hath been
an Art and manufacture of this
kingdome, for the better encou-
raging of Printers in their ho-
nest, and iust endeauours in
their profession, and preuention

A Decree

of diuers Libels, Pamphlets, and
seditious bookes printed beyond
the Seas in English, and thence
transported hither;

It is further Ordered and
Decreed, that no Merchant,
Book-seller, or other person or
persons whatsoeuer, shall im-
print, or cause to be imprinted
in the parts beyond the Seas,
or elsewhere, nor shall im-
port or bring, nor willingly
assist or consent to the impor-
tation or bringing from be-
yond the Seas into this Realme,
any English bookes, or part of
bookes whatsoeuer, which are
or

of Starre-Chamber.

or shall be, or the greater, or more part whereof is or shall be English, or of the English tongue, whether the same booke or bookes haue been here formerly printed, or not, vpon pain of the forfeiture of all such English bookes so imprinted or imported, and such further censure and punishment, as by this Court, or the said high Commission Court respectiue, as the seuerall causes shall require, shall be thought meet.

XII. *Item,* That no stranger or forreigner whatsoeuer, be suffered to bring in, or vent here, any booke^r or bookes printed
be-

A Decree

beyond the Seas in any Language whatsoever, either by themselves or their secret Factors, except such onely as bee free Stationers of *London*, and such as haue been brought vp in that profelsion, and haue their whole means of subsistence, and livelihood depending thereupon, vpon pain of confiscation of all such Bookes so imported, and such further penalties, as by this Court, or the high Commission Court respectiuey, as the seuerall causes shall require, shall be thought fit to be imposed.

XIII. *Item*, That no person
or

of Starre-Chamber.

or persons within the Citie of
London, or the liberties thereof
or elsewhere, shall erect or cause
to be erected any Presse or Print-
ing-house, nor shall demise, or
let, or suffer to be held or vsed, a-
ny house, vault, seller, or other
roome whatsoeuer, to, or by any
person or persons, for a Printing-
house, or place to print in, vnlesse
he or they which shall so demise
or let the same, or suffer the same
to be so vsed, shall first giue no-
tice to the said Master & VVar-
dens of the Company of Station-
ners for the time being, of such
demise, or suffering to worke or
print there, vpon pain of impris-

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A Decree

sonment, and such other punishment, as by this Court, or the said high Commission Court respectiue, as the feuerall Causes shall require, shall bee thought fit.

XIV. *Item*, That no Ioyner, or Carpenter, or other person, shall make any printing Presse, no Smith shall forge any Ironworke for a printing-presse, and no Founder shall cast any Letters for any person or persons whatsoever, neither shall any person or persons bring, or cause to be brought in from any parts beyond the Seas, any Letters
Founded

of Starre-Chamber.

Founded or Cast, nor buy any such Letters for Printing; Vnlesse he or they respectiuely shall first acquaint the said Master and VVardens, or some of them, for whom the same Presse, Iron-works, or Letters are to be made, forged, or cast, vpon paine of such fine and punishment, as this Court, or the high Commis-
sion Court respectiuely, as the seuerall causes shall require, shall think fit.

XV. *Item*, The Court doth declare, that as formerly, so now, there shall be but twenty Master Printers allowed to haue the

A Decree

vse of one Presse or more, as is
after specified, and doth hereby
nominate, allow, and admit these
persons whose names hereafter
follow, to the number of Twen-
tie, to haue the vse of a Presse, or
Presses and Printing-house, for
the time being, viz. *Felix King-
stone*, *Adam Islip*, *Thomas
Purfoot*, *Miles Flesher*, *Thomas
Harper*, *John Beale*, *John Legat*,
Robert Young, *John Haviland*,
George Miller, *Richard Badger*,
Thomas Cotes, *Bernard Alsop*,
Richard Bishop, *Edward Griffin*,
Thomas Purslow, *Richard Hodg-
kinsonne*, *John Dawson*, *John
Raworth*, *Marmaduke Parsons*.
And

of Starre-Chamber.

And further , the Court doth order and decree , That it shall be lawfull for the Lord Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury* , or the Lord Bishop of *London*, for the time being , taking to him or them six other high Commis-sioners, to supply the place or places of those, which are now already Printers by this Court, as they shall fall void by death, or Cen-sure , or otherwise : Prouided that they exceed not the number of Twentie , besides His Maiesties Printers , and the Printers allowed for the Vni-uerfities.

A Decree

XVI. *Item*, That euery person or persons, now allowed or admitted to haue the vse of a Presse, and Printing-house, shall within ten dayes after the date hereof, become bound with sureties to His Maiestie in the high Commission Court in the sum of three hundred pounds not to print, or suffer to be printed in his house or Presse, any booke, or bookes whatsoeuer, but such as shall from time to time be lawfully licensed, and that the like Bond shall be entred into by all, and euery person and persons, that hereafter shall be admitted, or allowed to print, before he or they

of Starre-Chamber.

they be suffered to haue the vse
of a Presse.

XVII. *Item*, That no allowed
Printer shall keepe aboue two
Presses, vnlesse he hath been Ma-
ster or vpper VVarden of his
Company, who are thereby al-
lowed to keepe three Presses and
no more, vnder paine of being
disabled for euer after to keepe
or vse any Presse at all, vnlesse
for some great and speciall occa-
sion for the publique, he or they
haue for a time leaue of the Lord
Arch-bishop of *Canterbury*, or
Lord Bishop of *London* for the
time being, to haue or vse one, or

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more

A Decree

more aboue the foresaid number, as their Lordships, or either of them shall thinke fit. And whereas there are some Master-Printers that haue at this present one, or more Presses allowed them by this Decree, the Court doth further order and declare, That the Master and VVar-
dens of the Company of Stationers, do foorthwith certifie the Lord Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, or the Lord Bishop of *London*, what number of Presses each Master-Printer hath, that their Lordships or either of them, taking unto them six other high Commissioners, may take such

of Starre-Chamber.

such present order for the suppressing of the supernumerarie Presses, as to their Lordships, or to either of them shall seem best.

XVIII. *Item,* That no person or persons, do hereafter reprint, or cause to bee reprinted, any booke or bookes whatsoever (though formerly printed with licence) without being reviewed, and a new Licence obtained for the reprinting thereof. Always provided, that the Stationer or Printer bee put to no other charge hereby, but the bringing and leauing of two printed copies of the book to be
F printed,

A Decree

printed, as is before expressed of
written Copies, with all such
Additions as the Authour hath
made.

XIX. *Item*, The Court doth
declare, as formerly, so now,
That no Apprentices bee taken
into any Printing-house, other-
wise then according to this pro-
portion following, (*viz.*) euery
Master-Printer that is, or hath
been Master or vpper-VVar-
den of his Company, may haue
three Apprentices at one time
and no more, and euery Master-
printer that is of the Livery of
his Company, may haue two
Appren-

of Starre-Chamber.

Apprentices at one time and no more, and euery Master-Printer of the Yeomanry of the Company, may haue one Apprentice at one time and no more, neither by Copartnership, binding at the Scriueners, nor any other way whatsoeuer; neither shall it be lawfull for any Master-Printer, when any Apprentice or Apprentices shall run or be put away, to take another Apprentice, or other Apprentices in his or their place or places, vnlesse the name or names of him or them so gone away, be raced out of the Hall-booke, and neuer admitted again, vpon

A Decree

paine of being for euer disabled of the vse of a Presse or printing-house, and of such further punishment, as by this Court, or the high Commission Court respectiuely, as the seuerall causes shall require, shall be thought fit to be imposed.

XX. *Item,* The Court doth likewise declare, that because a great part of the secret printing in corners hath been caused for want of orderly imployment for Iourneymen printers, Therefore the Court doth hereby require the Master and Wardens of the Company of Stationers, to take especiall care that all Iourneymen

of Starre-Chamber:

men-printers , who are free of the Company of Stationers, shall be set to worke , and imployed within their owne Company of Stationers ; for which purpose the Court doth also order and declare, that if any Iourneyman-Printer, and free of the Company of Stationers , who is of honest, and good behauour, and able in his trade , do want imployment , he shall repaire to the Master and Wardens of the Companie of Stationers , and they or one of them, taking with him or them one or two of the Master Printers, shall go along with the said Iourney-
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A Decree

man-Printer, and shall offer his seruice in the first place to the Master-Printer vnder whom he serued his Apprentiship, if he be liuing, and do continue an allowed Printer, or otherwise to any other Master-Printer, whom the Master and VVar- dens of the said Company shall thinke fit. And euery Master-Printer shall bee bound to im- ploy one Iourneyman, being so offered to him, and more, if need shall so require, and it shall be so adiudged to come to his share, according to the proportion of his Apprentices and imploy- ments, by the Master and VVar-

of Starre-Chamber.

VVardens of the Company of Stationers, although he the said Master-Printer with his Apprentice or Apprentices be able without the helpe of the said Journeyman or Journeymen to discharge his owne worke, vpon paine of such punishment, as by this Court, or the high Commission Court respectiuely, as the seuerall causes shall require, shall be thought fit.

XXI. *Item,* The Court doth declare, That if the Master and VVardens of the Companie of Stationers, or any of them, shall refuse or neglect to go along
F 4 with

A Decree

with any honest and sufficient Journey-man Printer, so desiring their assistance, to finde him employment, vpon complaint and proofe made thereof, he, or they so offending, shall suffer imprisonment, and such other punishment, as by this court, or the high Commission Court respectiue-ly, as the seuerall causes shall require, shall bee thought fit to bee imposed. But in case any Master Printer hath more employment then he is able to discharge with helpe of his Apprentice or Apprentices, it shall be lawfull for him to require the helpe of any Journey-man, or Journey-men

of Starre-Chamber.

men-Printers, who are not im-
ployed, and if the said Iourney-
man, or Iourneymen-Printers
so required shall refuse imploy-
ment, or neglect it when hee or
they haue vndertaken it, he, or
they shall suffer imprisonment,
and vndergo such punishment,
as this Court shall thinke fit.

XXII. *Item*, The Court
doth hereby declare, that it doth
not hereby restraine the Printers
of either of the Vniuersities
from taking what number of
Apprentices for their seruice in
printing there, they themselues
shall thinke fit. Prouided al-
ways,

A Decree

wayes, that the said Printers in the Vniuersities shall imploy all their owne Iourney-men within themselves, and not suffer any of their said Iourney-men to go abroad for imployment to the Printers of *London* (vnlesse vpon occasion some Printers of *London* desire to imploy some extraordinary VVorkman or VVorkmen amongst them, without preiudice to their owne Iourneymen, who are Freemen) vpon such penalty as the Chancellor of either of the Vniuersities for the time being, shall thinke fit to inflict vpon the delinquents herein.

of Starre-Chamber.

XXIII. *Item*, That no Master-printer shall imploy either to worke at the Case, or the Presse, or otherwise about his printing, any other person or persons, then such onely as are Free-men, or Apprentices to the Trade or mystery of Printing, vnder paine of being disabled for euer after to keep or vse any Presse or Printing-house, and such further punishment as by this court, or the high Commission Court respectiue, as the seuerall causes shall require, shall bee thought fit to bee imposed.

1
A Decree

XXIV. *Item*, The Court doth hereby declare their firme resolution, that if any person or persons, that is not allowed Printer, shall hereafter presume to set vp any Presse for printing or shall worke at any such, Presse, or Set, or Compose any Letters to bee wrought by any such Presse ; hee, or they so offending, shall from time to time, by the Order of this Court, bee set in the Pillorie, and VVhipt through the Citie of *London*, and suffer such other punishment, as this Court shall Order or thinke fit to inflict vpon

of Starre-Chamber.

vpon them,vpon Complaint or
prooffe of fuch offence or offen-
ces,or fhallbe otherwife punish-
ed, as the Court of high Com-
miffion fhall thinke fit, and is
agreeable to their Commiffion.

XXV. *Item*, That for the
better difcouery of printing in
Corners without licence; The
Mafter and VVardens of the
Company of Stationers for the
time being, or any two licensed
Mafter-Printers, which fhall be
appointed by the Lord Arch-
Bifhop of *Canterbury*, or Lord
B. of *London* for the time being,
fhall haue power and authority,

A Decree

to take vnto themselues such assistance as they shall think needfull, and to search what houses and shops (and at what time they shall think fit) especially Printing-houses, and to view what is in printing, and to call for the licence to see whether it be licensed or no, and if not, to seize vpon so much as is printed, together with the seuerall offenders, and to bring them before the Lord Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, or the Lord Bishop of *London* for the time being, that they or either of them may take such further order therein as shall appertaine to Iustice.

XXVI.

of Starre-Chamber.

XXVI. *Item*, The Court doth declare, that it shall be lawfull also for the said Searchers, if vpon search they find any book or bookes, or part of booke or books which they suspect to containe matter in it or them, contrary to the doctrine and discipline of the Church of *England*, or against the State and Gouvernement, vpon such suspition to seize upon such book or books, or part of booke or books, and to bring it, or them, to the Lord Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, or the Lord Bishop of *London* for the time being, who shall take

G 4

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A Decree

such further course therein, as
to their Lordships, or either of
them shall seeme fit.

XXVII. *Item*, The Court
doth order and declare, that
there shall be foure Founders of
letters for printing-allowed, and
no more, and doth hereby nomi-
nate, allow, and admit these per-
sons, whose names hereafter fol-
low, to the number of foure, to
be letter-Founders for the time
being (*viz.*) *Iohn Grismand,*
Thomas Wright, Arthur Ni-
chols, Alexander Fifeild. And
further, the Court doth Order
and Decree, that it shall be law-
full

of Starre-Chamber.

full for the Lord Arch-bishop
of *Canterbury*, or the Lord Bi-
shop of *London* for the time be-
ing, taking unto him or them, six
other high Commissioners, to
supply the place or places of
these who are now allowed
Founders of letters by this
Court, as they shall fall void by
death, censure, or otherwise.

Prouided, that they exceede
not the number of foure, set
downe by this Court. And if
any person or persons, not being
an allowed Founder, shall not-
withstanding take vpon him, or
them, to Found, or cast letters
for printing, vpon complaint
and prooffe made of such offence,

H

or

A Decree

or offences, he, or they so offending, shal suffer such punishment, as this Court, or the high Commission court respectiue, as the seuerall causes shall require, shall think fit to inflict vpon them.

XXVIII. *Item*, That no Master-Founder whatsoeuer shall keepe aboue two Apprentices at one time, neither by Copartnership, binding at the Scriueners, nor any other way whatsoeuer, neither shall it be lawfull for any Master-Founder, when any Apprentice, or Apprentices shal run, or be put away, to take another Apprentice, or other Apprentices in his, or their place or places, vnlesse the name, or names of him,

of Starre-Chamber.

him, or them so gone away, be
raſed out of the Hall-booke of
the Company, whereof the Ma-
ſter-Founder is free, and neuer
admitted again, vpon pain of ſuch
punishment, as by this Court, or
the high Commiſſion reſpective-
ly, as the ſeuerall Cauſes ſhall re-
quire, ſhall be thought fit to bee
impoſed.

XXIX. *Item,* That all Iourney-
men-Founders be imployed by
the Maſter-Founders of the ſaid
trade, and that idle Iourney-men
be compelled to worke after the
ſame manner, and vpon the ſame
penalties, as in caſe of the Iour-
ney-men-Printers is before ſpeci-
fied.

A Decree

XXX. *Item*, That no Master-Founder of letters, shall imploy any other person or persons in any worke belonging to the casting or founding of letters, then such onely as are freemen or apprentices to the trade of founding letters, saue onely in the pulling off the knots of mettle hanging at the ends of the letters when they are first cast, in which work it shall be lawfull for euery Master-Founder, to imploy one boy only that is not, nor hath beene bound to the trade of Founding letters, but not otherwise, upon pain of being for euer disabled to vse or exercise that art, and such further punishment, as by this Court

of Starre-Chamber.

Court, or the high Commission Court respectiue, as the seuerall causes shall require, be thought fit to be imposed.

XXXI. *Item,* That euery person or persons whatsoeuer, which shall at any time or times hereafter, by his, or their confession, or otherwise by proof be conuicted of any of the offences, by this, or any other Decree of this Court made, shal before such time as he or they shall be discharged, and ouer and aboue their fine & punishment, as aforesaid, be bound with good sureties, neuer after to transgresse, or offend in that or the like kinde, for which he, or they shalbe so conuicted and punished, as aforesaid; And that all and

A Decree

euery the forfeitures aforesaid (excepting all seditious schismaticall Bookes, or Pamphlets, which this Court doth hereby Order to bee presently burnt) And except such Bookes, as the forfeitures are already granted by Letters Patents, shall be diuided and disposed of, as the high Commission Court shall find fit. Alwaies providing that one moitie be to the King.

XXXII. *Item,* That no Merchant, Master, or Owner of any Ship or Vessell, or any other person or persons whatsoever shall hereafter presume to land, or put on shore any Booke or Bookes, or the part of any Booke or Books, to be imported from beyond the seas,
in

of Starre-Chamber.

in any Port, Hauen, Creek,
or other place whatsoeuer within
the Realme of *England*, but only
in the Port of the City of *London*,
to the end the said Bookes may
there be viewed, as aforesaid:
And the seuerall Officers of His
Maiesties Ports are hereby re-
quired to take notice thereof.

XXXIII. *Item*, That whereas
there is an agreement betwixt Sir
Thomas Bodley Knight, Founder
of the Vniuersity Library at *Ox-*
ford, and the Master, VVar-
dens, and Afsistants of the Com-
pany of Stationers (*viz.*) That
one Booke of euery sort that is
new printed, or reprinted with
additions, be sent to the Vni-

And the said Printer shall
deliver the said Book new printed on
request to him with addition
of the title any other
writing of the said book, bring it
to the Common Hall of the
Companie of Stationers, and de-
liver it to the Officer thereof, to
be kept in the Librarie of Oxford
accordingly, vpon paine of im-
prisonment, and such further
Order and Direction therein as
to this Court, or the high Com-
mission Court respectively, as
the Generall causes shall require,
thought fit.

FINIS.